

Winter planting, Old Chewton tip site, Post Office Hill.



Local Landcare and Friends of groups working along the Forest Creek catchment are united in a long term vision to create habitat connectivity between the large areas of existing native vegetation. They also work towards raising community awareness and appreciation of the value and benefits of good natural resource management in a peri-urban area within Victoria's Box-Ironbark Forests. Located in Jaara country with the Dja Dja Wurrung people being the traditional owners, Forest Creek became the site of the world's richest shallow alluvial goldfield in 1851. The landscape was changed dramatically with devastating impacts for local flora and fauna. This history is evident in the landscapes of the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park.

In 2012 the Forest Creek Action Plan was developed to support Landcare and Friends of groups, recreational users and land managers, to record the work that has been done and to place this work in a broader context.

Partnering with each other, new volunteers and public land managers, local groups continue the rehabilitation of this environmentally significant, historic and fragile landscape. Ongoing restoration work of the Creeklime Grassy Woodland, an endangered habitat in the Central Goldfields Bioregion, is being carried out along Forest Creek and its tributary gullies. From Expedition Pass Reservoir, through Chewton to Castlemaine, works include weed control and eradication, remnant site protection and revegetation, habitat monitoring, seed collection, and community engagement and education. The Goldfields Track now makes the landscape of Forest Creek easily accessible to locals and visitors.



Revegetation works around Old Yellow Box tree, Manchester St Chewton.

Local groups welcome new members and volunteers. Contact a group– learn more about your environment and its history, increase your knowledge of best practise land management skills, meet your neighbours, share with and support your local community.

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CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY



Forest Creek Action Plan

Turning Community Vision into Rehabilitation Actions





Echidna



Red Spider Orchid



Reservoir spillway



Ruins of Welsh Street Bridge



Bridal creeper control, Moonlight Flat



Forest walks



Yellow Box tree, Chewton



Forest Creek at Chewton



Phascogale. Photo Mike Grinstead



Winter planting, Castlemaine Landcare Group



Goldfields Walking Track at Happy Valley



Exclusion zone planting at Victoria Gully



Whitehorse Gully planting



POHAG planting on Old Chewton tip

